



Tempe Art in Private Development



Acacia Court

950 W. Elliot Road

Gary Slater

Serengeti, 2000

Copper

Artist website:

www.slatersculpture.com

Description: The grassy motif of *Serengeti* was created to soften and compliment the crisp edges of the building design. "I have named the fence and gates *Serengeti* to give it some reference. The forms would remind one of the tall grasses blowing. An underlying factor in the fence and gates was that by using copper there would be no maintenance, ever." This piece, inspired by the dramatic landscape of the Southwest, combines materials and finishes in ways that ingeniously complement the minimalist, fluid forms of the motif. *Serengeti* earned the Acacia Court team a Beautification Award for Art in Private Development Excellence in 2001.

Artist biography: Slater is a native of Minnesota and moved to Arizona in 1971. He earned his Master of Fine Art degree at Arizona State University, where he began working on large scale sculpture, directly influenced by the Southwest. Though the largest of his works are favorites because of the visual impact, the majority of his works are in the three- to six-6 foot range. He has vast experience in creating site specific sculptures for clients and collectors, and frequently works with architects, designers and individuals to solve the visual needs of a given space. Slater works with stainless steel, copper bronze and other combinations of metals and finishes. Working within a crisp geometric framework, he has found a great variety of sculptural forms to keep his works fresh and stimulating. Slater was recognized as "Master of the Southwest" by *Phoenix Home and Garden* magazine in 2003.

Funding: This project was funded by the individual developer, Trammell Crow Company, as a requirement of Tempe's Art in Private Development Ordinance.